

App. Serial No. 10/579,935  
Docket No.: NI.031363US1

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**In the Specification:**

Please replace the abstract of the disclosure with the following abstract, now deemed to be provided on a separate sheet.

**Abstract**

An array of magnetoresistive memory elements includes a magnetic field sensor for measuring an external magnetic field in the vicinity of the magnetoresistive memory elements. The sensor provides input to enable/disable circuitry that functions to temporarily disable any programming operation when the measured external magnetic field exceeds a threshold value.